REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

OF

WALTON-LE-DALE,

FOR THE YEAR 1894.

Preston:
Printed by C. W. Whitehead, 125, Fishergate, and Avenham Street Mill.
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THE

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR THE YEAR 1894.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

The year 1894 having passed away, it is again my duty to present you with an Annual Report bearing on the Vital and Mortal Statistics as well as on the Health and Sanitary condition of your Township.

The figures I have used in writing this report are the same as those of last year, and were supplied by the Census Returns of 1891. The population has, no doubt, slightly increased since then, but it is better to accept these figures than use such as might be arrived at by estimating the population. When writing my report for 1890, I averaged the population at so many to each inhabited house in the Township, which gave a population of 10,889, but when the Census Returns came out the following year they shewed very clearly the fallacy of such a calculation, the population in reality being only 10,556, at which rate I have made the returns in this report.

During the year there were recorded 322 Births and 168 Deaths, giving a birth-rate in each thousand of the population of 30·50, and a death-rate of 15·91. Of the births 161 are males and 161 females, of the deaths 82 were males and 86 females, showing a natural increase to the population of 154.

A little interest may attach to the comparison of the death-rate for the past five years. In the year 1890 it was 18·63, in 1891 25·57, in 1892 20·08, in 1893 20·84, and as already shown in the past year 15·91.

Circumstanced as the Township is, surrounded by manufactories, with three-fourths of the population employed in factories, with up to the present but a most imperfect drainage system, and with an inadequate water supply, severely felt in portions of the Township, I believe you have reason for congratulation in having so low a death-rate. The improved mortality is most marked in the deaths of children under five years ; in 1893 there were 99 deaths under this age, while in the past year there were only 71, or a decrease of 28; the decline is also well seen in the deaths which took place between twenty-five and sixty-five and upwards, in 1893 they were 106, in 1894, 85.

Fifty-three deaths took place under one year old, 18 one year and under five, 4 five and under fifteen, 8 fifteen and under twenty-five, 55 twenty-five and under sixty-five, 30 sixty-five and upwards, four of the latter lived to be eighty, the maximum age was eighty-six.

To the principal Zymotic Diseases, 21 deaths are re erred, giving a mortality of 1·98 in each thousand of the population. One death is referred to Scarlatina, three to Diphtheria, three to Croup, two to Typhoid Fever, two to Measles, two to Whooping Cough, and eight to Diarrhœa.

The death from Scarlatina occurred in School Lane, two of those from Diphtheria in Walton-le-Dale, the other in Higher Walton ; one of the Typhoid Fever cases died in Bamber Bridge,

the other in Gregson Lane; both the deaths from Measles occurred at Lostock, both of those from Whooping Cough took place in Bamber Bridge, and five of those from Diarrhœa in Walton-le-Dale, and three in Bamber Bridge.

The Zymotic death-rate of your Township will compare favourably with a large proportion of Urban Districts in the Country. In the year 1890 there were 19 deaths from these diseases, in 1891 42, in 1892 16, in 1893 39, and in the past year 21.

Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, 1889, 23 cases were reported, four of Erysipelas, seven of Diphtheria, five of Typhoid Fever, and seven of Scarlatina. Six resulted in death. Up to the present cases of Croup (whether membranous or not), Diarrhœa, Measles, and Whooping Cough have not been notified.

While at this portion of the Report, I may mention that during the year there was not a case admitted to the Infectious Hospital. Had an epidemic broken out in the Township, or had infectious disease appeared in large families where isolation could not be obtained, I have no doubt advantage would have been taken of it as was the case in the previous year. I cannot pass from this subject without drawing your attention to the fact that the Hospital is not provided with a Mortuary, the want of which might give rise to much inconvenience.

In the month of March I inspected a farm house in Higher Walton where a case of Diphtheria had appeared. I found the drains most defective, the cow house under the same roof as the dwelling house and in a filthy condition, the adjoining house was also in a most insanitary state, there was no drain from it,

all slop-water and excrement from the petty gravitated into a shallow hole, removed but a few feet from the back of both houses. Your Nuisance Inspector attended to the matter without delay. During the month of April five cases of Scarlatina appeared, one in School Lane, one in Bamber Bridge, two in Higher Walton, and one in Gregson Lane. Although distributed over so wide an area, and, as might be expected, likely to become epidemic from so many centres of infection, it did not show any tendency to spread, and soon died out.

In the month of July, by instructions received from your Clerk, Mr. Dixon, I inspected six houses in Higher Walton, which I found in a most insanitary condition; one in particular not fit for human habitation. The water supply was obtained from a well, which must have been simply filtered Darwen water. Since then they have been put into repair.

In October an outbreak of Typhoid Fever was notified at St. Mary's-road, Bamber Bridge. I at once inspected the house, which I found to be one of a row of seven. The houses I found clean and healthy, with the drains in good order. For the seven houses I found there were three rain water tanks provided. Each house had a pump connected with a tank. In some of the houses they drank this water in preference to the Local Board supply, which they had in each house. Such was the case in the house where the fever occurred. The tanks were about nine feet in depth, bricked up the sides, and covered with flags. They were close to the petties and drains, and being only covered with a flag might easily become contaminated with sewage matter. I advised that they should be filled up, and, if necessary, water barrels substituted.

On the 14th December I inspected and reported on the water supply of three farm houses situated at Leigh Brow. On

the same date I also visited a farm yard at 74, Station-road, Bamber Bridge, which I found in a filthy condition, and reported to your Board. On the 19th of the same month I inspected and reported on the water supply of the houses Nos. 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9, Moss-lane, Lostock. The owners of the bake and slaughter-houses are most particular as to their cleanliness. I have at all times of my visits found them in good order.

I have made regular inspections of portions of the township, and am constantly in and out through the district. I am well aware of most of the sanitary defects, which from time to time are being gradually removed. In this direction progress is perhaps slow, but all must admit that forward is the ardent wish of all connected with the Board.

When infectious cases have been notified I have lost no time in visiting the houses and have done my utmost to find out any sanitary defect that might perhaps have caused the disease, or failing this to, if possible, ascertain the source of infection. I have given all necessary instructions, and have been ably assisted by your Nuisance Inspector, Mr. Moxham, than whom there could be no better or more willing officer. Disinfectants have been supplied when necessary with an unsparing hand.

I have attached the forms required by the Local Government Board, also Table (C) for the County Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Sergeant. The following sanitary work has been carried out under the direction of your Nuisance Inspector:—

21,057 pails have been emptied and cleaned. 3,839 ashpits emptied and disinfected. Fifteen people have been served with notice to cover and make dry their ashpits. Ten persons have been served with notice to open and clean defctive drains. Two have been served with notice to remove manure heaps.

Two have been served with notice to remove fowls from their dwelling-houses. Three served with notice to clean and white-wash their houses. Fourteen houses have been fumigated and thoroughly disinfected. Thirty-seven ashpits have been covered and made dry that were formerly wet. Thirteen beds have been disinfected in the hot-air chamber. Twenty backyards have been enlarged that were looked on as too small. Four owners of farms have been served with notice to provide pure water for their dairies and cow sheds. Eight miles 120 yards of main sewers have been laid, with 18, 15, 12, and 9in. pipes.

Your obedient Servant,

ROBT. TRIMBLE, M.D., F.R.C.S.I., D.P.H.

NOTES ON TABLES A AND B.

NOTE 1. *Medical Officers of Health of "Combined Districts" must make a separate Return for the District of each Sanitary Authority.*

2. *Medical Officers of Health acting for a portion only of the District of a Sanitary Authority should write, in the heading of the table the designation of the Division for which they act.*

3. *The words "Urban," "Rural," or "Metropolitan," must be inserted in the appropriate space in the heading, according as the Sanitary Authority for the District is Urban or Rural, or is within the Metropolitan Area.*

4. The "*Localities*" adopted for the purpose of these statistics should be areas of known population; such as parishes, groups of parishes, townships or wards.

As stated at the head of the first column in each Table, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the deaths in them ahould be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially of sick people, are received are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

5. *The deaths which have to be classified in this Table* (A), and summed up in the horizontal line of "Totals," are the whole of those *registered* as having actually occurred in the several localities comprised within the Division or District. But the registered number of deaths frequently requires correction before it can give an exact view of the mortality of a Division or District; and the two lowest horizontal lines are provided for the purpose of enabling Medical Officers of Health to indicate, to the best of their ability, what the extent of such corrections should be. Details concerning the corrective figures, *e.g.*, the institutions that have been considered, or the particular localities to which corrections apply, may appear on the text of the report or in supplementary tables.

Area and Population of the District or Division to which this Return relates.

Area in Acres 4682a. 3r. 1p.

Population (1891) 10,556.

In recording the facts under the various headings of Tables A and B, attention has been given to the notes endorsed on the Tables.

25th Feb., 1895. ROBT. TRIMBLE, Medical Officer of Health.

(A) *TABLE OF DEATHS during the year 1894, in the Urban Sanitary District of Walton-le-Dale; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.*

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (Columns for Population and Births are in Table B.)	*Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages*							*Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing Deaths of Children under Five Years of age.*																						
													Fevers.																	
	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards.		Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Diarrhœa and Dysentery.	Rheumatic Fever.	Ague.	Phthisis.	Bronchitis, Pneumonia, & Pleurisy	Heart Disease.	Injuries.	All other Diseases.	Total.
a	*b*	*c*	*d*	*e*	*f*	*g*	*h*	*i*	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
WALTON-LE-DALE URBAN DISTRICT..	168	53	18	4	8	55	30	Under 5	..	1	2	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	8	..	..	1	8	1	1	42	71
									..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
								5 upwards	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20	11	16	2	45	97

(B) *TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1894, in the Urban Sanitary District of Walton-le-Dale; classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.*

NAMES OF LOCALITIES adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; public institutions being shown as separate localities. (See Note 2 on back of sheet.)	*Population at all ages.*		Registered Births.	Aged under 5 or over 5.	*New Cases of Sickness in each Locality, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.*													*Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for treatment in Isolation Hospital.*												
									Fevers.												Fevers.									
	Census, 1891.	Estimated to middle of 1894.			Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.			Smallpox.	Scarlatina.	Diphtheria.	Membranous Croup.	Typhus.	Enteric or Typhoid.	Continued.	Relapsing.	Puerperal.	Cholera.	Erysipelas.		
a	*b*	*c*	*d*	*e*	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF WALTON-LE-DALE..	10556	10556	..	Under 5	..	7	7	..	..	5	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	..	..	..	..	..	..
					..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..	..
				5 upwards	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..		..	..	..	..	..	..

State here whether "Notification of Infectious Disease" is compulsory in the District—Yes. Since when? Two years. Besides the above-mentioned Diseases, insert in the columns with blank headings the names of any that are notifiable in the District, and fill the columns accordingly. State here the name of the Isolation Hospital used by the sick of the District. Mark (H) the Locality in which such Hospital is situated; and if not within the District, state where it is situated. One Infectious Hospital, Bamber Bridge.

* No cases were admitted into the Infectious Hospital during the year.

NOTES ON TABLE B.

(See also Notes on back of Table A.)

NOTE 1. The present *Table B* is concerned with population, births, and sickness (not with mortality) in the Sanitary district or division to which the Table relates.

2. As stated in the heading of Col. *(a)*, *Public Institutions* should be regarded as separate localities, and the new cases of sickness in them should be separately recorded. Workhouses, Hospitals, Infirmaries, Asylums, and other establishments into which numbers of people, and especially sick people, are received, are Public Institutions for the purpose of these statistics.

3. *Comments on any unequal incidence of notifiable disease upon the several localities, and considerations as to the local incidence of consumption and other prevalent diseases, should be made in the text of the Report.*

TABLE (C).

COUNTY OF LANCASTER.

Summary of Medical Officer's Report

FOR 1894.

Urban Sanitary District of Walton-le-Dale.

Area in Statute Acres, 4,682a. 3r. 1p.
Population, Enumerated 1891, 10,556.

Name of Medical Officer of Health: ROBERT TRIMBLE.

Date of Appointment 26th March, 1894. Salary £30.

Births registered: Male, 161; Female, 161; Total, 322.

Deaths registered: Male, 82; Female, 86; Total, 168.

Birth-rate: 30·50. Death-rate: 15·91. Death-rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, per 1,000 of population, 1·98.

Diseases prevalent: No epidemic during the year.

Hospital Accommodation: Cottage; eight beds. Is it Joint or otherwise? No. Cases treated: None during the year. Deaths in Hospital: None.

Disinfection: Fumigation. Apparatus used: Hot-air Chamber.

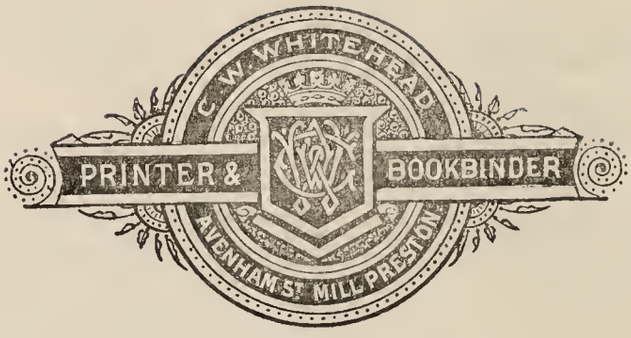
Notification Act in force? Yes. Number of cases notified: None.

SUMMARY—*continued.*

What is the character of House Accommodation?	Ordinary cottages.
How many Back-to-back Houses?	None.
What action has been taken under "The Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890?" ...	All houses found unfit for habitation have been emptied or put into good order.
Water Supply	Local Board (District Council).
Is Scavenging carried out satisfactorily?	Fairly.
By Sanitary Authority or Contract?	By contract.
How is the Refuse disposed of?	Used as manure for gardens.
What is the character of Drainage and the form of Sewage disposal?	Sewage Works being carried out at the present time.
Canal Boats	None of any moment.
What is the condition of the Bakehouses? ...	Clean at all times. I have inspected them.
Slaughter Houses ...	Do. do. do.
Lodging Houses. Are they Registered? ...	No.
Are the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops periodically inspected? Have any Regulations been made by your Authority under the Order of the Local Government Board? ...	Nuisance Inspector looks after them.

SUMMARY—*continued.*

Have the Factories and Workshops been inspected, and with what result?	I have not been into any of them.
Offensive Trades... ...	None in the district.
Sale of Food and Drugs Act	No. of Samples purchased \| None. Prosecutions
Food unfit for Human Consumption. Amount seized?...	None.
River Pollution	Sewage.
Any Special Report of Medical Officer of Health during the year? ...	Several reports mentioned in Annual Report.
Department of Inspectors of Nuisances	No. of Notices served \| In Report. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result.
Smoke	Do you suffer from this form of Nuisance. \| Atmosphere thick at times. No. of Observations \| None. No. of Legal Proceedings taken and result \| None. Give approximately the number of tall chimneys in connection with mills or large works. \| About twelve.
Has the Authority adopted *(a)* "The Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890?" *(b)* "The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890?"	Yes.
Has any special action been taken in respect of Cholera?	Not to my knowledge.


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